

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA:NC:TWSONANDRES

APPROVED BY ARA:NC - MR. DEVINE

ARA:PAF - MR. JOHNSON (PHONE)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 304671

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EINV, VE, US

SUBJECT: NOON PRESS BRIEFING EXERPT -- FOREIGN INVESTMENT
AND NATIONALIZATION

1. FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON SUBJECT OCCURRED
AT NOON PRESS BRIEFING TODAY (DECEMBER 30) AFTER A PRESS
RELEASE ON SUBJECT (SEPTTEL) WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO
REPORTERS. BEGIN QUOTE:

Q: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ISSUING THE STATEMENT ON
NATIONALIZATION AT THIS TIME. IS IT CONNECTED WITH ANY
RECENT NATIONALIZATION OR ANY VIOLATION BY ANY FOREIGN
GOVERNMENT OF THIS SOMEWHAT STANDARD US POSITION ON THE
RULES OF THE GAME?

A: ON THAT OUR INTENTION IS NOT, IN ISSUING THE STATEMENT,
TO SINGLE OUT ANY PARTICULAR COUNTRY. IT IS A GENERAL
STATEMENT OF POLICY, GENERALLY APPLICABLE TO ALL US
FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN ALL COUNTRIES. AND I THINK, AS IT
SAYS IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH, THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF
ACTUAL OR CONTEMPLATED NATIONALIZATIONS INVOLVING US FIRMS
AND ENSUING SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS, AND IN THESE CIRCUM-
STANCES WE ARE REITERATING PERTINENT AMERICAN POLICY.

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Q: THAT REPRESENTS NO CHANGE IN THE POLICY THAT HAS
BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR A GOOD MANY YEARS?

A: NO, I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY CHANGE. IT'S A
STATEMENT OF POLICY WE ARE FOLLOWING AND HAVE FOLLOWED.
IT'S A VIEW WE HAVE REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED CONCERNING
NATIONALIZATION CASES. END QUOTE: ROBINSON

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